

# CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
Manassas, Virginia  
May 2019

**NOTICE: On July 1 all expired annual members will be removed from our email list.**



District 8 officers for 2019-20 were installed on April 28 at the District convention in Culpeper. (L-R) QM Ron Link, JVC Lou Filippone, SVC Jeff Dumbroff and CDR Charles Bush.

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## Post Membership Statistics



**CANNON NEWS**—2015 & 2018 National VFW Publications Silver Award  
2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for  
Most Outstanding Post Publication/Newsletter, VFW Department of Virginia

## Commander's Message



Wayne Moore

Comrades,

Our May 6 membership meeting is upon us and will be a night chockful of business. Being on time is important to conduct events in a timely manner.

First, we will have dinner starting at 6pm. At 6:45 Junior Vice Commander and Chairman of the Post Youth Activities Committee Lou Filippone will preside over the Scout of the Year Awards. He will be accompanied by Post Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill and Past Commander Peter MacLeod.

Upon completion of the awards presentation, we'll enter a joint session of the Post and Auxiliary where the Auxiliary Past District President Lorraine Allen Smith will conduct the installation of their officers for 2019-2020.

Our guest host for the evening will be Past Department Commander and Present Department Quartermaster Tom Gimble who will lead the procedural process of the pending Post 7589/1811 merger. Letters were sent to all members announcing the forthcoming merger meeting. Assuming a positive outcome, that will complete the process at the Post level. The merger documents will then be forwarded to the Department for eventual certification by National.

**TIME TO RECRUIT!** We will conduct a couple of much needed recruiting days at the Tractor Supply Store (Balls Ford Rd) on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days. Recruiters welcome or just bring someone that's in need of comradeship.

## Auxiliary President



Mary Corkhill

At the National Auxiliary Mid-Year

Conference in Tucson, AZ, Ms. Ann Pantelakos, from Connecticut, was installed as the National Secretary/Treasurer. Just a reminder, from the Big Ten Conference, the candidates running for National Guard are Ms. Brenda Bryant from Missouri, Ms. Lauri Dale from Minnesota and Ms. Sandra Uzell from Ohio. In July, at the National Convention, the Guard along with the other National Line Officers will be elected and installed for the 2019-2020 year. On Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, the new National President will have her Homecoming at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, FL.

The members of this Auxiliary would like to **Congratulate** Ms. Saran Kim from W.T. Woodson HS in Fairfax, VA for placing first in the National VFW Auxiliary American Creative Art Contest Patriotic Arts contest. In addition to other entries, we were honored to have an entry for the new three dimensional art. The Auxiliary's first place entry was forwarded to the Department Chairman for judging. The Department's first place recipient's art work will be forwarded to National VFW Auxiliary Headquarters in Kansas City, MO. The judging will be done in July at the National Convention in Orlando, FL and the first-place recipient will receive a \$15,000 scholarship.



The election for 2019-20 officers was held at the Post on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> during the monthly meeting. As the incoming President, I would like to congratulate the new and continuing officers which are the following: Sr. Vice: Ellie Smith, Jr Vice: Cindy McIntyre, Secretary: Ann Mitchell, Treasurer: Elanor Doczi, Chaplain: Cookie



Cullen, Conductress: Debbie Baxter, Guard: Patsy Gough, 1<sup>st</sup> Trustee: Yvonne Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee: Janet Raskin, 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustee: Jan Germain. The appointed Patriotic Instructor is Diane Zalenski and Historians are Dana Zank & Patsy Gough. Thank you for your continuing support to your Auxiliary and to the veterans and their families.

The installation for the new Auxiliary officers will be May 6<sup>th</sup> at the general meeting. There are some new changes in the schedule for the May meeting. We will start off with a dinner at 6:00pm, followed by the Post's recipient for the Scout of the Year at 6:45pm and then the installation for the Auxiliary. Our installing officer will be Past District President Lorraine Allen-Smith. Also joining our event will be Department Quartermaster Tom Gimble. After the installation, the Post and Auxiliary will retire to their own meetings at 7:30pm. The new officers will take their positions after the Department Convention in June.

I would like to thank the members of Auxiliary 1841 & 1264 for their hospitality when I attended National President Sandi Kriebel's official visit on April 14-16<sup>th</sup> in Roanoke, VA. Some of the individuals attending were PNP Dee Guillory, Department Commander Ken Wiseman, and officers of the Department. It was also announced there will be additional participation from the National VFW to the Auxiliary's Patriotic Arts along with additional changes for next year. More information will be forthcoming.

The 8th District Convention was held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at Post 2524 in Culpeper, VA. Congratulations to the incoming President Kathlene Bilger and her newly elected officers. Attending this event was Department President Patty Baskett. Also at this meeting, the first and second place Scouts of the Year were honored.



The Auxiliary will hold our annual Buddy Poppy drive on the Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Westgate Giant in Manassas. The time will be from 9am

*(Auxiliary President Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

until 3pm on both days. Please, we need your assistance in the Buddy Poppy drive. The funds collected go toward assisting the veterans and their families. Thank you in advance.

Please meet at Ms. Elanor’s house to assemble the Buddy Poppy display on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. Last year we were honored to have our display place first at the Department and third at National. We would like for you to come and join the group in putting the display together. We have a lot of great ideas and would like to have your input as well.

Just a reminder: our 2020 annual membership drive will start July 1<sup>st</sup>. For every annual member who pays their dues by September 30<sup>th</sup>, their name will be placed in a drawing for a life membership. Also, if you let your membership lapse, and are subsequently diagnosed with cancer, you will **not** be eligible for the Cancer Grant during and after the one year waiting period. You can pay your dues through the National VFW Auxiliary MEDIA (which is highly recommended by National) or forward your \$20 to the Auxiliary Treasurer Elanor Doczi, 7415 Roxbury Dr., Manassas, VA 20109. As always, thank you in advance.



We are requesting your support and sponsorship for our fundraisers with Wreaths Across America (WAA). Our Auxiliary supports the WAA organization and will assist those laying wreaths at Quantico National Cemetery on Saturday, December 14 at 12:00 (noon). For every \$15.00 wreath purchased \$5.00 comes back to the Auxiliary. We have the sponsorship form available on-line so you can print it out. Thank you for your continued support.

As of July 1, 2018, the Auxiliary has collected over \$32,249 in coupons for our veterans serving overseas. Please assist us in this venture. You may drop your coupons off at the Post or give them to any Post or Auxiliary member. This is a great cause for our veterans and their families.

For several years, I have been updating you about the National Home for Children. The following information is from their website, “The VFW National Home for



Children was founded in 1925 in Eaton Rapid, MI as a place where families left behind by war could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn’t come home. Today’s military and veteran families face different challenges - reintegration, post-traumatic stress, high unemployment and rehabilitation from battlefield injuries, among others – and the National Home has evolved over our decades-long history to meet those changing needs.” To become a life member of this great organization, it is only \$50.00. Please consider becoming a member. Thank you.



I would like to thank everyone for all the cards and phone calls I received after my recent surgery. The love shown was unbelievable and welcomed. I have been informed that Ms. Yvonne Sullivan is facing some medical issues. We would like for you to remember her and other members and their families who are ill or hospitalized in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill  
VFW Auxiliary President



Ms. Saran Kim, 17,  
W.T. Woodson High School  
Fairfax, VA

Honor Our Vets

“Freedom is never free.”

– Author unknown

The potency in this concise sentence speaks out to the depths of our gratitude.

Freedom is indeed, never free. Ironic enough, we live in a country where we demand a certain level of freedom and we are granted it. The question being asked here is not why; but how. To all the loved and lost, we can proudly stand in front of our flag because of them. Our vets put their blood and sweat into our country’s soil and we are the seeds.

This painting is to show true emotion through a soldier’s facial expression after losing a fellow soldier. Moreover, he stands firm, even with the chaos in the back, our flag still hangs. It is dedicated to all veterans and peoples involved with protecting and loving our country.

## Youth News & Notes



**Lou Filippone**

Greetings to everyone from the Youth Committee.

We held our last meeting on 18 April which was attended by Commander Wayne Moore, Comrades Paul Chase, Dave

Mattingly, Peter MacLeod, and myself. The discussion covered a wide range of topics and was quite productive. Our first subject involved awards. Numerous awards activities are going on with the Post and District this month now that all our Youth contests have been completed. We have two separate Scout of the Year award ceremonies scheduled for both District 8 and the Post.

The District 8 awards ceremony recognized the first and second place winners. Eagle Scout Christopher J. Petrillo from Post 7589 was the first place winner. He is now in the Department competition and we hope he goes all the way to national competition. The awards ceremony was held at Post 2524 in Culpeper.

The Post will hold our Scout of the Year Awards Ceremony at the general membership meeting on May 6. Again we will recognize Eagle Scout Christopher J. Petrillo, as our Post first place winner, and Eagle Scout Ryan Bocompani our second place winner. The awards ceremony will follow the 6:00 PM dinner sponsored by the Auxiliary at the beginning of the general membership meeting. Please attend this award ceremony and show your support for both Christopher and Ryan.

Just a reminder: the new date for the spring flag retirement ceremony is Saturday, 11 May at the Post. We are currently recruiting area Scouts for this event and hopefully will have cooperative weather. We are looking for help with this event from all those interested. Please contact me or any other Youth Committee member, if you would like to participate. Responsibilities include greeting Scouts and their families, assisting with parking, supervising the Scouts during the actual retirement, Flag etiquette instruction, and

serving refreshments. It is always the committee's responsibility to notify the City of Manassas police and fire department of the event since it involves an outdoor fire.

We have several JROTC and one CAP award ceremony scheduled for the month of May and are looking for award presenters for these events. Post 7589 presents the VFW Cadet Award to one winning Cadet from each high school JROTC program. Two awards are given to the CAP Squadron on our behalf for both Officer and NCO Cadet winners. Please contact me or any other Youth Committee member if you have interest in attending these events. The schedule and award winners are as follows:

Wednesday, 1 May 2019  
Battlefield High School in Haymarket, Air Force JROTC VFW Bronze Medal and certificate to Cadet 2Lt Vivian Greer, Dinner 6:00 PM  
Awards Presentation 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 1 May 2019  
Osbourne Park High School in Manassas, Navy JROTC VFW Bronze medal and certificate to Cadet Joseph Slezak  
Awards Presentation 6:00PM

Wednesday, 15 May 2019  
Stonewall Jackson High School in Manassas, Air Force JROTC VFW Bronze medal and certificate to Cadet 1Lt Aryan Mizid  
Awards Presentation 9:00AM

Tuesday, 21 May 2019  
Prince William Composite Squadron of Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol Manassas Armory, Cadet Captain Evan Heidenrich is the VFW Officers Award Recipient and Cadet CMSgt Gabe Hoback is the VFW NCO Award recipient  
Awards Presentation 7:00 PM

A brief discussion of the projected Youth Committee budget for the upcoming year was held. It was generally agreed that the Youth Committee funds are monies well spent for the VFW and our Post. The return on our investment for instilling patriotism and interest in military and public service in our next generation is incalculable. Hopefully we will continue to grow our Youth Committee, especially

with the Post 1811 merger, increased participation from our membership, and additional funding.

Lastly the Scout Troop joining us from Post 1811 has a regular meeting place during the school year. They are in need of a meeting place during the summer months. We are considering letting them use our Post as a meeting place two Monday evenings each month. This would occur June, July, and August when the hall is not being used. It was decided to discuss this matter at the May Executive Committee meeting for final approval.

Our next Youth Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 16 May at 7:00 PM at our Post. Please join our committee and attend the meeting. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Until next month stay healthy and active.

With best regards,  
Lou Filippone  
Youth Committee Chair

### NEW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT'S PEN THEMES.

The 2019–20 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief William J. "Doc" Schmitz. The Voice of Democracy and the Patriot's Pen theme will be **"What Makes America Great."**

# Manassas Wellness Fair

by Paul Chase

VFW Post 7589 of Manassas VA has, for several years through the local InterService Club Council (ISCC), been a strong supporter of the annual Manassas Wellness Fair which provides free vision, dental and hearing screening along with healthy eating education for residents of the city. When the screening identifies someone with these issues and they are in need of financial assistance ISCC members work to obtain cost free specialist services. The Wellness Fair has proven to be a major help to students, especially when their issues have negatively impacted their progress in school. VFW Post 7589 has provided financial and manpower in making these annual Fairs a huge success. Left to right in the picture taken at the April 2019 Fair are: Chester Smith - Manassas Host Lions Club, Paul Chase Post 7589 - liaison to ISCC, Carol Campbell VP ISCC and Vicki Latimer President of ISCC. This is an example among many as to how our Post reaches out to assist the community.



Chester Smith Manassas Host Lions Club, Post 7589 Member Paul Chase, Carol Campbell Vice President ISCC and Vicki Latimer President ISCC.



Wayne Moore



Heidi BruMar

# Meet/Ask a vet Program at AL Post 10

by Rick Raskin

Five Post 7589 members participated in a program for local school children to meet veterans and ask questions held at American Legion Post 10 on April 13. This was the inaugural run for the event which actually was requested by the students themselves. Post 10 and Post 7589 plan to make this an annual event. Post 7589 members who participated were Heidi BruMar, Ron Link, Dave Mattingly and Rick Raskin. Thanks to Post 10 and Commander Toni Barber for inviting us to participate.



Rick Raskin

## Why a Credit Freeze Is a Better Choice

by Bob Knight

Post 7589 Judge Advocate Elect

Source: <https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/what-s-the-difference-between-a-credit-freeze-and-a-credit-lock.html>

The credit bureaus tend to market credit locks as faster and more user friendly than credit freezes, but in most cases putting a freeze on your credit at all three agencies is the best way to protect yourself. Here's why.

**Credit freezes** are regulated by **state law**. **Credit locks**, on the other hand, are governed by a **contract between you and the credit bureau**. Contracts often have terms that aren't favorable to the consumer, like arbitration clauses that prevent you from participating in a lawsuit. Also, if a thief fraudulently accesses your credit file while a freeze is in place, you'll have better protection against liability under state law. Ultimately, state law will provide you with stronger protections than a contract that the credit bureau drafted. Also, as of September 2018, federal law regulates credit freezes as well.

Credit freezes might be less expensive. **Freezing and lifting a freeze is free**, which is obviously cheaper than having to **indefinitely pay Experian's high monthly fee for a credit lock**.

**The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), a U.S. government agency that makes sure banks, lenders, and other financial companies treat you fairly states the following:**

**What does it mean to put a security freeze on my credit report?**

**Answer: A security freeze prevents prospective creditors from accessing your credit file.**

Creditors typically won't offer you credit if they can't access your [credit reporting file](#), so a **security freeze**, also called a **credit freeze**, prevents you or others from opening accounts in your name. Security freezes can be useful in preventing an [identity thief](#) from opening a new credit account in your name.

Only a limited number of entities can see your file while a freeze is in place, including:

- Creditors of accounts you currently hold
- Certain government entities like child support agencies

- Companies that you've hired to monitor your credit file

### Free Security Freezes

**Under a federal law effective September 21, 2018**, you can freeze and unfreeze your credit record for free at the three nationwide credit reporting companies – Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax. The federal law requiring free security freezes does not apply to someone who requests your credit report for employment, tenant-screening, or insurance purposes. Other credit reporting companies, for example employment or tenant screening companies, might charge a fee to place and lift a security freeze based on your state laws.

**You can place a "freeze" on your credit file at any time, but you must contact each credit reporting company. For more information, visit the nationwide credit reporting companies' websites or call the numbers below:**

Equifax: [Take control of your Equifax® credit report](#) (800) 685-1111

Experian: Security Freeze (888) 397-3742

TransUnion: Credit Help, (888) 909-8872

### Security Freeze Notice and Timing

A nationwide credit reporting company must place a security freeze within 1 business day of your request if made by telephone or secure electronic means. If the request is made by mail, the security freeze must be placed no later than 3 business days after receiving the request.

A nationwide credit reporting company must send you a written confirmation of the security freeze no later than 5 business days after the security freeze is placed. They must also tell you of how to remove the security freeze.

The nationwide consumer reporting company's webpage must also allow you to request a security freeze, an initial fraud alert, an extended fraud alert, and an active duty fraud alert.

### Temporary Lift of Security Freeze

Upon your request, the security freeze can be removed free of charge. The security freeze will be removed no later than:

- 1 hour after receiving the request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means
- 3 business days after receiving the request by mail

You also have the option to lift the freeze temporarily for a period of time specified by you, free of charge. The same time periods above apply to a temporary removal of your security freeze.

### Security Freeze for "Protected Consumers"

Federal law provides protections related to credit records and identity theft for "protected consumers" under the age of 16 and incapacitated persons or persons for whom a guardian has been appointed. Persons with authority to act for these protected consumers can request a security freeze.

Additionally, if the nationwide credit reporting company does not have a file on the protected consumer at the time the security freeze is requested by the parents or guardians, the company will create a record in order to freeze the record for the "protected consumer." This record of the "protected consumer" may not be used for credit purposes and may only be used to freeze the record to protect against identity theft.

## Fraudulent Websites

*Submitted by Ron Link*

Cybercriminals register domain (website) names that are similar to popular companies' names to sell phony products or trick consumers. Some set up sites that mimic real ones (even using their company logos); others use social media to advertise their fake sites. They all have the same goal: to steal your money and/or your personal information, otherwise known as **phishing**. Play it safe: Protect yourself by shopping and doing business only on sites you trust and keep them bookmarked in your browser. If you do shop on a website that's new or unfamiliar, here are a few tips to help you spot the scammers. See if the URL (web address) begins with "https" and has a lock icon to make sure that your transaction is secure, and that data

transmitted is encrypted.

Avoid too-good-to-be-true deals that you receive via email or find advertised on social media or trendy news websites.

Check customer reviews but be suspicious if all are excessively positive.

Be wary of sites that only accept money orders, electronic transfers, gift cards or wire payments.

Never respond to a request for a text message as part of the payment process—and don't complete the purchase.

If the business is based in the U.S., find out if it's in good standing by looking up the corporate name on [the website](#) of the Secretary of State (or Secretary of the Commonwealth for Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Virginia) in the state where it's incorporated.

## Dinner at the Post on May 6

Join us for dinner on May 6 at the Post prior to the Post and Auxiliary meetings. Scout of the Year award presentations and the installation of Post and Auxiliary officers for the 2019-2020 membership year will be conducted prior to the start of the respective meetings.

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Scout of the Year awards at 6:45 PM

Auxiliary installation of officers

Post 7589/1811 merger meeting, election and installation of Post officers

Respective meetings to follow.

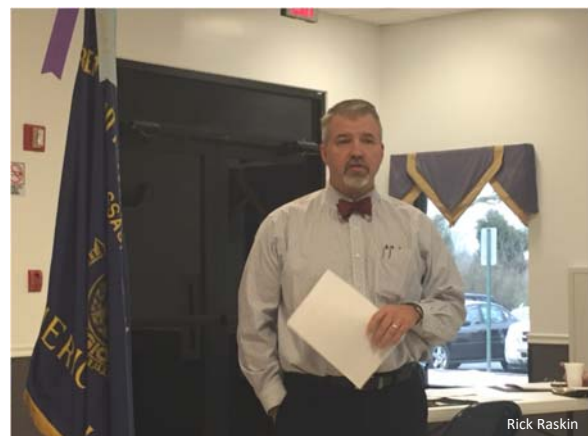
## Mentors needed for Veterans' Docket

*by Jerry Martin*

The Prince William County Veterans' docket was developed to give veterans who have been charged with a criminal or serious traffic offense the opportunity to seek and participate in service connected treatment or other services that address service connected issues which led to the current pending charges.

Veterans would be allowed to participate in relevant services prior to final disposition of their charges. The docket is operated on the assumption that meaningful participation in service connected treatment programs will ultimately lead to the best possible outcome of the pending charges. A mentor program staffed by veterans is being developed to help guide participants through the process.

There is a need for veterans to volunteer as mentors. The Veterans' docket is held every 4th Monday at the courthouse in Manassas around 3:00 PM. Anyone wanting to see how the program works is invited to attend.



Judge William E. Jarvis speaks on the Veterans' Docket at American Legion Post 10 on January 19.

## Steer Clear of These Online Scams

from Navy Federal on April 4, 2019

### Fraudulent Websites

Cybercriminals register domain (website) names that are similar to popular companies' names to sell phony products or trick consumers. Some set up sites that mimic real ones (even using their company logos); others use social media to advertise their fake sites. They all have the same goal: to steal your money and/or your personal information, otherwise known as phishing.

Play it safe: Protect yourself by shopping and doing business only on sites you trust and keep them bookmarked in your browser. If you do shop on a website that's new or unfamiliar, here are a few tips to help you spot the scammers.

### Fake or Misleading Ads

Beware of scams lurking on online marketplaces, where there are multiple products and sellers. Some sites sell their own products and have other vendors selling products through their sites. Although most companies do their best to police their sites, scammers sometimes sneak through. Some do a "bait and switch" by advertising one item, but delivering another (it doesn't match the advertisement) or never delivering at all. Others advertise luxury items like jewelry for unbelievably low prices. Can you really get an authentic Rolex for \$100?

Play it safe: Before you buy, read the reviews about the seller and the product you want to purchase. Check out the return policy. If you're still not sure, stick to sites that have rules and policies to protect you.

### Hackers Stealing Data

If you're shopping on a website that doesn't have secure encryption, a hacker may be able to intercept financial information when it's transmitted. As a result, your identity or financial information could fall into the wrong hands.

Play it safe: When shopping online, always look for a padlock icon in the search bar. That indicates the website is secure. Be sure the site URL begins with "https://", rather than just "http://". The "s" stands for "secure" and indicates that data transmitted is encrypted.

### Malvertising (Malicious Advertising)

It may be tempting to click on advertisements you see online, especially if it's a really good deal, but you could be putting your information and your computer at risk if it's a malvertisement—an advertisement infected with malware.

Play it safe: To reduce your risk, be sure your security software is regularly updated and avoid clicking on suspicious advertisements. If you really want to find out more about the advertised product or company, don't click. Do your homework and research the company in your web

Submitted by Gunny Lewis

## Civil Air Patrol, Prince William Composite Squadron 2019 award winners announced

Cadet Captain Evan Heidenreich is the VFW Officers Award recipient.

Cadet CMSgt Gabe Hoback is the VFW NCO Award recipient.

The awards will be presented at the Manassas Armory on Dumfries Road (Business 234) on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 7:00 pm



COMCAST and *NOVEC* present  
**MANASSAS BALLET THEATRE** in  
**SLEEPING BEAUTY**  
 WITH THE MANASSAS BALLET THEATRE ORCHESTRA  
 May 17-19, 2019

*Veterans receive discounted admission*

The magical *Sleeping Beauty* is a fairy tale ballet with all the elements of a classic - a royal Princess, a Prince in pursuit, fairy godmothers, and of course an evil force at work! Join MBT and The Manassas Ballet Theatre Orchestra for this timeless story at the award-winning Hylton Performing Arts Center with both evening and matinee performances.

HYLTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER | 703-993-7759 | [www.hyltoncenter.org](http://www.hyltoncenter.org)  
 MANASSAS BALLET THEATRE





## KUENTAI-USA No.43 Activity Report Background of the mission

**Date:** March 22—March 28, 2019

**Purpose** To Support a research to locate the WWII airplane.  
To look for information on the missing in Okinawa and other islands.

**Place** Okinawa, Iriomote Island

**Members** Usan Kurata, Yukari Akatsuka, Justin Taylan (Founder of NPO Pacific Wrecks member of Kuentai USA) and Michael McAlonie (member of Kuentai USA)



- We met with a founder of NPO Pacific Wrecks, Justin Taylan, in New York in the end last year, and he brought Michael McAlonie to introduce. He is a son of a WWII veteran whose best friend from high school, a Marine pilot, is listed as "MIA" from one of the missions during the Battle of Okinawa.
- They asked if KUENTAI-USA could help locate his airplane in Okinawa and do the joint mission, so we started the research after going back to Japan.

### Marine Pilot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt John McGrath, USMC

- Born April 20, 1925 in Troy, NY.
- F4U Corsair fighter pilot in the Pacific Theater.
- Missing in Action on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1945 off Okinawa.
- His aircraft and remains never located.
- Classmates of Michael's father, Howard McAlonie, from high school in Troy.



Combat Report of 2nd Lt. John McGrath

His Combat Report says;

*His plane failed to pull out of a rocket dive and crashed into the water several hundred yards SW of Sonai Town at 1435.*

Sonai is located on an island called Iriomote, about 250 miles away from the mainland of Okinawa.

Place of investigation:  
Iriomote Island in Okinawa



Start meeting people on the island...



Courtesy visit to Mayor's office



Meeting with the local elder and school teacher:  
Michael shared a story about his father and the pilot.



The local elder gave us a tour to show around the islands.



We found a local diver who has actually discovered the wrecked Corsair 30 years ago. We asked if he could take us to the place in the ocean where he found the airplane. He said, "let me try".



On the ship, the divers had a brief meeting before going to the ocean.



Michael asked the diver to take a picture of his father and put on the McGrath's airplane.

The diver answered; "I'm honored".





Justin is taking the picture of the John McGrath's airplane.



Reunion of the old friends!  
John McGrath and  
Michael's father.



Team Effort to make it happen!

### KUENTAI-USA No.43 Activity Report Summary

Thanks to the locals, the wrecked airplane has been located during our stay, but more importantly, we learned that the remains of the pilot, USMC 2nd Lt. John McGrath had already been recovered by the American military in 1988. But this has not been told to the families.

- So the questions are... Why the remains of McGrath are not returned?
- Where are the remains today?
- Can more remains be recovered from the wrecked airplane today?

Justin and Michael will work with the families to make DPAA reinvestigate the case, and hopefully they will start the research to bring his remains back to the families.

## Upcoming Events

<b>2019</b>	
May 1	Battlefield HS Air Force Junior ROTC is Wednesday May 1 with a pot lock supper at 6:00 PM in the School Cafeteria, Awards presentations at 7:00 pm  Osborn Park HS Navy Junior ROTC — Wednesday, May 1, in the auditorium — 6:00 PM
May 6	Dinner 6 PM, Executive Meeting 7 PM, 7589/1811 Merger meeting 7:30 PM followed by Post/Auxiliary Meeting (Installations)
May 11	Flag Retirement Ceremony—9:00 AM
May 15	Stonewall Jackson HS Air Force Junior ROTC — Wednesday morning, May 15 at 9:00 am in the auditorium
May 16	Youth Committee Meeting 7 PM
May 17—19	Manassas Ballet Theatre— <i>Sleeping Beauty</i> — Discounts for veterans.
May 21	Civil Air Patrol awards — Tuesday, May 21 — 7:00 pm at the Manassas Armory on Dumfries Road
May 25-26	Buddy Poppy Drives
May 27	Vet Day Activities/8:30 AM – Veteran Memorial 9 AM Manassas Cemetery
June 3	Executive Meeting 7PM, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 PM
June 3	Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 PM
June 7—9	Nation’s Gun Show Recruiting—Chantilly (District 8 covers Sunday)
June 13-16	Department Convention, Portsmouth, VA
June 20	Youth Committee Meeting 7 PM
July 1	Executive Meeting 7 PM, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 PM
July 20-24	National Convention/Orlando, FL
July 26—28	Nation’s Gun Show Recruiting—Chantilly (District 8 covers Sunday)

The VFW National Home for Children

The VFW National Home for Children offers a once in a lifetime **opportunity** for military and veteran related families.

If you know of a family in your community that could use our help, please encourage them to call!

We are currently accepting new resident families into our program.

Most qualify to apply. Caring staff will help families to determine eligibility.

A Great Place to Call Home!

800-313-4200

### Virginia Department of Veterans Services Manassas Office

9300 W. Courthouse Rd.  
Suite 305  
703-479-7437

KNOW YOUR VIRGINIA REPRESENTATIVE

Rob Wittman	1st District	202-225-4261
Elaine Luria	2nd District	202-225-4215
Bobby Scott	3rd District	202-225-8351
Donald McEachin	4th District	202-225-6365
Denver Riggleman	5th District	202-225-4711
Ben Cline	6th District	202-225-9681
Abigail Spanberger	7th District	202-225-2815
Don Beyer	8th District	202-225-4376
Morgan Griffith	9th District	202-225-3861
Jennifer Wexton	10th District	202-225-5136
Gerry Connolly	11th District	202-225-1492



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